

Dr. Maisha Wester is an Associate Professor in American Studies, and African American and African Diaspora Studies at Indiana University. She is currently a Fulbright fellow doing research in the UK where she is investigating Black Gothic writing as well as the deployment of Gothic tropes in British discourses on racial and ethnic subjects. Her first book, *African American Gothic: Screams from Shadowed Places* (2012), interrogates Black appropriations, revisions, and critiques of Gothic tropes and discourses. As one reviewer remarks “Nowhere else can readers so clearly grasp in so many examples so well analyzed how African American authors have radically transformed specifically Gothic conventions to make them profoundly symbolic of the horrors and complexities of the black American experience.” She is currently completing her second book *Voodoo Queens and Zombie Lords: Haiti in U.S. Horror Cinema* as well as a co-edited collection titled *Twenty-First Century Gothic*.